

REMARKS

In the amendment above, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 5 and claim 5 has been canceled. No issue of new matter is raised by this amendment. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter and consider this amendment.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification because of a typographical error on page 1. In response, applicants have amended the specification to correct such error. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this ground of objection.

Rejections of the Claims

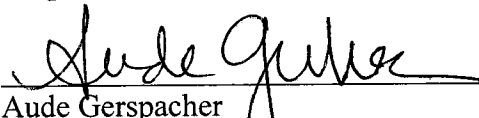
The Examiner rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Gorman, U.S. 5,672,206 ("Gorman"). The Examiner also rejected claims 1-3 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Thorsbakken, U.S. Patent No. 6,170,426 ("Thorsbakken"). The Examiner further rejected claims 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Gorman in view of Thorsbakken or Agamaite, U.S. Patent No. 2,560,061.

In response, but without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's ground of rejection, applicants note that claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 5 which the Examiner deems allowable. Applicants maintain that this amendment obviates the Examiner's grounds of rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103. Accordingly, applicants maintain that claim 1 as amended is allowable along with claims 2-4 and 6-8 dependent therefrom.

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims herein are respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,


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